

## NEVADA DIVISION OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

### FACT SHEET

(pursuant to NAC 445A.236)

**Permittee Name:** U.S. Department of the Interior  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
Lahontan National Fish Hatchery  
710 Highway 395  
Gardnerville, Nevada 89410

**Permit Number:** NEV60043

**Description of Discharge** - Hatchery discharge to groundwaters of the State of Nevada via the Allerman Canal to agricultural irrigation.

**Location:** The Lahontan National Fish Hatchery is located four miles south of Gardnerville, Douglas County, Nevada, at 701 U.S. Highway 395. The East Fork Carson River forms the south property boundary of the hatchery station. The hatchery is located in Township 12 North, Range 20 East M.D.B & M in Section 23. Latitude: 38° 53' 39" N; Longitude: 119° 42' 00" W.

**Characteristics:** The wastewater is generated in the operation of the hatchery facility. Recycled water is pumped from the effluent wet well into the Allerman Canal by one of two pumps which are automatic, but are manually alternated.

**Flow:** The facility will have a discharge permit flow limitation of 3.0 MGD for a 30-day average, and a daily maximum flow of 4.5 MGD.

**Quantities:** Although BOD<sub>5</sub>, TSS, nitrate and phosphate are required to be sampled quarterly (cleaning water discharge is sampled every other quarter), no discharge limitations have been imposed because effluent is used in irrigation.

**General:** The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service operates the Lahontan National Fish Hatchery, south of Gardnerville, Nevada. All hatchery wastewater/effluent is discharged to the Bently irrigation system via the Allerman Canal for irrigation use. The hatchery employs a reuse system that recycles hatchery waters through a biofilter to convert or nitrify metabolites such as ammonia to nitrates, and also adds some fresh make-up water. This make-up water helps maintain temperature control and replenishes water volume.

All water supplied to the hatchery is groundwater pumped from 5 different wells, as needed. The groundwater is aerated before it enters the hatchery and raceways. Upon leaving the raceways the effluent is discharged to a wet well and then is re-circulated via a biofilter. Effluent flow that is not re-circulated is pumped into the Allerman Canal at outfall 001. Cleaning water discharge is directed to concrete lined settling basins to settle out solids; fish waste and unutilized fish food. This cleaning water is flushed daily into the concrete settling basin to allow solids to settle out prior to discharge to Allerman Canal. Solids are removed from the settling basin bimonthly and are pumped to a pond for

*bacteriological decomposition. These solids are reused by local farmers. Settling basin effluent is discharged at outfall 002 into the Allerman Canal.*

**Procedures for Public Comment:**

*The Notice of the Division's intent to reissue a permit authorizing the facility to discharge to groundwaters of the State of Nevada subject to the conditions contained within the permit, is being sent to the **Record Courier and the Nevada Appeal** for publication. The notice is being mailed to interested persons on our mailing list. Anyone wishing to comment on the proposed permit can do so in writing for a period of 30 days following the date of publication of the public notice, by August 16, 2007. The comment period can be extended at the discretion of the Administrator.*

*A public hearing on the proposed determination can be requested by the applicant, any affected State, any affected interstate agency, the Regional Administrator or any interested agency, person or group of persons.*

*The request must be filed within the comment period and must indicate the interest of the person filing the request and the reasons why a hearing is warranted.*

*Any public hearing determined by the Administrator to be held must be conducted in the geographical area of the proposed discharge or any other area the Administrator determined to be appropriate. All public hearings must be conducted to accordance with NAC 445A.238.*

*The final determination of the Administrator may be appealed to the State Environmental Commission pursuant to NRS 445A.605.*

**Proposed Determination**

*The Division has made the tentative determination to reissue the proposed permit for a five (5) year period.*

**Proposed Effluent Limitations, Schedule of Compliance**

*There are no limitations other than flow and pH of 6.0 - 9.0. SU..  
Any revisions to the approved O & M Manual shall be submitted by December 30, 2007.  
There are no special conditions.*

**Rationale for Permit Requirements**

*Monitoring is being required to determine the effluent water quality that is being discharged for irrigation. Flow is monitored to ensure that the design capacity of the facility is not exceeded.*

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